

Applicant: Shintaro Asano
U.S.S.N.: 09/802,093

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 22-21 have been cancelled and claim 32 has been amended. Claims 12, 13, 17-21 and 32 are pending in the application with claims 12 and 32 being in independent form. The claims as presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Allowed and Allowable Claims

In the Office Action, claims 12, 13 and 17-21 have been allowed, and claim 32 as been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form and is believed to be in allowable condition.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

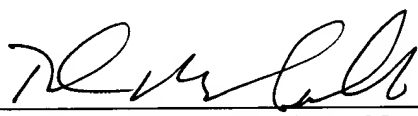
Claims 22-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yu (US Patent No. 5,764,903). Without acceding to the correctness of this rejection and without prejudice to pursue the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuation applications, applicant has cancelled claims 22-31 to further the prosecution of the application.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, this application is believed to be in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, he/she is invited to contact the Applicant's Attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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